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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/667,726	09/22/2003	Chaitanya Dev Sareen	60001.0284U/S01/305087.1	9701
7590 11/14/2008				
Leonard J. Hope Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903			EXAMINER ANWARI, MACEEH	
			ART UNIT 2444	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/14/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/667,726

Applicant(s)

SAREEN ET AL.

Examiner

MACEEH ANWARI

Art Unit

2444

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 6-8, 12, 13 and 15-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 6-8, 12-13, 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to communications file on 11/09/2008.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 12-13, 15-18** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Syroid & Leuf "Outlook 2000 in a Nutshell" O'Reilly, April 01, 2000 (hereinafter **Syroid**) and further in view of **Wholey, III et al.** (hereinafter **Wholey**) U.S. Patent No.: 7,164,422 B1.

Claim1: A method for identifying to a user the cause of an event occurring within a personal information manager, the method comprising: maintaining at the personal information manager a rule comprising at least one condition and at least one action that is performed when the at least one condition is satisfied, wherein the at least one condition comprises receiving at least one electronic mail message and wherein the at least one action comprises displaying a first user interface dialog box indicating that the at least one electronic mail message has been received (**Figure 6-12 and pages 1-3; send and receive e-mails, address book and Microsoft outlook**), wherein at least one of the plurality of rules is a default rule provided with the personal information manager (**Figures 7- 8 and 10 and Col. 5 line 64- Col. 6 line 18; default parameters and text**

boxes); performing an evaluation to determine whether the at least one condition is satisfied, wherein performing the evaluation comprises performing the evaluation when the at least one electronic mail message has been received **(Figure 6-15 - 6-19 and pages 8; mail rules)**; performing the at least one action in response to determining that the at least one condition is satisfied **(Figure 6-15 - 6-19 and pages 8; mail rules and notifications)**; receiving a request to identify the cause of the performance of the at least one action **(Figure 6-15 - 6-19 and pages 8; mail rules, triggers and notifications)**; and in response to receiving the request, identifying the rule to the user, wherein identifying the rule to the user comprises;

received a selection in the first dialog box, wherein the received selection being configured to indicate the at least one of the plurality of rules the user has selected for editing, and

in response to receiving the selection in the first dialog box, displaying a second user interface dialog box comprising **(Figures 7- 8 and 10 and Col. 11 lines 27-46; rules with associated text edit boxes)**:

a list identifying each of the at least one electronic messages indicating which of the at least one condition that has been satisfied **(Figure 6-19 and pages 8; pop-up notification)**, wherein the at least one of the plurality of rules the user has selected for editing is highlighted and,

a text box containing the list, the text box configured to allow the user to edit the at least one of the plurality of rules that is highlighted **(Figures 7- 8 and**

10 and Col. 11 lines 27-46; rules with associated text edit boxes).

Claim 4: Wherein receiving a request to identify the cause of the performance of the at least one action comprises receiving a selection of the user interface object (**Figure 6-15 - 6-20 and pages 18-19; mail rules, notification and rules wizard**).

Claims 6- 8, 12- 13 & 15- 18 are substantially the same as **claims 1- 4** and are thus rejected for reasons similar to those in rejecting **claims 1- 4**.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 1, 4, 6-8, 12-13, 15-18** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MACEEH ANWARI whose telephone number is (571)272-7591. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00 PM ES.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

M.A.
/William C. Vaughn, Jr./
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444